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## Cultural Advantages Await You

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# Cultural Advantages Await You

*Iowa State encourages an appreciation of literature, music and art, says Harriet Breckenridge*

WHEN Iowa State students leave their scientific courses and technical laboratories, they are offered ample opportunities for active or spectator participation in music, literature and the arts. Cultural activities planned for the coming year indicate the wide variety of aesthetic opportunities offered on the campus.

This year's Concert Series opens on October 29 with a program by Gladys Swarthout. Renowned for her roles on the Metropolitan stage as well as for her radio performances, the mezzo-soprano furnishes a fit introduction to the many cosmopolitan artists who are brought to Iowa State each year.

Jesus Maria Sanroma, who has been a soloist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra more often than any other artists, will give a concert on January 1. He is considered one of the greatest pianists in America in the fields of both classical and modern music. The Budapest String Quartet, one of the finest in the country, will present a concert on February 18.

Returning to the campus for the sixth consecutive year, the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra will present two concerts in April under the direction of Dimitri Mitropoulos.

Glee clubs, a mixed chorus, concert band, symphony orchestra and a marching band provide students with opportunities for active music participation. Each Christmas season the Women's Glee Club presents a Sunday afternoon program of Christmas music. The mixed chorus and the Symphony Orchestra perform the *Messiah* before students leave for the Christmas holidays.

A course in music appreciation is offered to students who wish to develop a better understanding of music. Whenever a concert artist is coming to the campus the class studies his background, the selections which he will play and their composers.

Each year the Star Lecture Series brings to the campus well-known persons from the fields of public affairs, journalism and arts. Margaret Meade, Mlle. Eve Curie, Cornelia Otis Skinner, Bernard DeVoto and Louis Untermeyer have appeared in the past few years.

The Life and Literature Series is being revived in November with Mary Ellen Chase who will lead the

*Applying design principles to a poster, this student is gaining a better appreciation of art*



programs on fiction. She is the author of *A Goodly Heritage*, *Windswept* and *Silas Crockett*. Miss Chase, a professor of English literature at Smith College, Northampton, Mass., will give several lectures and will speak at informal meetings.

In *Sketch*, the campus creative writing magazine, are published poems and short stories written by Iowa State students. The Writers' Round Table, composed of a selected group of campus writers, provides an opportunity for students to discuss their work. Courses in creative writing often bring a student's latent literary talent to the fore.

For students with talent in verbal expression there are opportunities in the Iowa State Debaters and the Theater and Radio Workshops. Every year the debate season is highlighted by an international debate when Iowa State debaters meet with some foreign debate team which is on tour.

Incorporated in the curriculum of the Applied Art Department are numerous cultural opportunities. In her senior year every home economics student takes a course in art appreciation which includes a survey of architecture, sculpture and painting from prehistoric to modern times. Crafts courses, in which students become deft at bookbinding, leather and metal work and the design and construction of jewelry, are popular. Under the direction of Prof. Christian Petersen, resident sculptor at Iowa State, instruction in sculpturing is given.

The college library supplements its reference and instructional materials for undergraduates with book exhibits which provide an opportunity for students to browse "just for fun." Both rare books and plates from costume and other art portfolios are displayed in glass-enclosed cases in the main lobby.

The Memorial Union, hub of campus life, offers many cultural advantages to students. In the fall the Books and Cokes programs feature book reviews by students. Members of the English Department present the reviews during winter quarter at Books and Coffee meetings.

Friday afternoon is the time for the popular Coffee Forum. Here the news of the week is summarized and a panel composed of faculty members and an outstanding student discusses current topics. Famous campus visitors are often guests on this panel.

Bimonthly Latin American Seminars enable North and South American students to become better acquainted. They develop an understanding of each other's customs, countries and problems that is difficult to obtain in formal class discussion.

Music by the world's greatest orchestras and soloists as well as semi-classical compositions can be selected by the listener any day in the Carnegie Music Room in the Union. Over 1,000 recordings are available for reproduction on the record player and amplifier. A browsing library of 100 books on music has been placed in the room.

Organ recitals are presented one noon each week in Great Hall by Marji Horner Hawthorne, of the Music Department. Great Hall is also the scene of Sunday evening vesper services, lectures, navy entertainment and special convocations. Displays of water color and oil paintings and photographs by Iowa State students and faculty artists are exhibited here.